



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
Upper Columbia Fish and Wildlife Office
11103 East Montgomery Drive
Spokane, Washington 99206



August 7, 2001

Paula vanHaagen, Manager
Standards and Planning Unit
United States Environmental Protection Agency
Region 10
1200 Sixth Avenue
Seattle, Washington 98101

Subject: Species List for Changes to Water Quality Standards for Eastern Washington
(File #600.1500)

Reference Number: 1-9-01-SP-0566

Dear Ms. vanHaagen:

This responds to your June 27, 2001, request for a list of threatened and endangered species that may occur in eastern Washington. We understand that the project involves changes to the Washington state Water Quality Standards. Please use the above reference number for all future correspondence regarding this project.

We have reviewed the information you provided. Our records indicate that the enclosed list (Enclosure A) of listed, proposed, and candidate species, and designated and proposed critical habitat, may occur in eastern Washington and could potentially be affected by the changes. Our western Washington office in Lacey, Washington, is providing a list of threatened and endangered species found west of the crest of the Cascade range.

Federal agencies must meet their responsibilities under section 7 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (Act), as outlined in Enclosure B. Enclosure B includes a discussion of the contents of a Biological Assessment (BA), which provides an analysis of the impacts of the project on listed and proposed species, and designated and proposed critical habitat. Preparation of a BA is required for all major construction projects. Even if a BA is not prepared, potential project effects on listed and proposed species should be addressed in the environmental review for this project. Federal agencies may designate, in writing, a non-federal representative to prepare a BA. However, the involved federal agency retains responsibility for the BA, its adequacy, and ultimate compliance with section 7 of the Act.

Preparation of a BA would be prudent when listed or proposed species, or designated or proposed critical habitat, occur within the project area. Should the BA determine that a listed species is likely to be affected by the project, the involved federal agency should request section 7 consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service). If a proposed species is likely to be jeopardized by the project, regulations require conferencing between the involved federal agency and the Service. If the BA concludes that the project will have no effect on any listed or proposed species, we would appreciate receiving a copy for our information.

Candidate species receive no protection under the Act, but are included for your use during planning of the project. Candidate species could be formally proposed and listed during project planning, thereby falling within the scope of section 7 of the Act. Protection provided to these species now may preclude possible listing in the future. If evaluation of the subject project indicates that it is likely to adversely impact a candidate species, we encourage you to modify the project to minimize/avoid these impacts.

Several species of anadromous fishes that have been listed by the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) may occur in the project area. Please contact NMFS in Seattle, Washington, at (206) 526-6150, in Portland, Oregon, at (503) 231-2319, or in Boise, Idaho, at (208) 378-5696 to request a list of these species.

If you would like information concerning state listed species or species of concern, you may contact the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, at (360) 902-2543, for fish and wildlife species; or the Washington Department of Natural Resources, at (360) 902-1667, for plant species.

This letter fulfills the requirements of the Service under section 7 of the Act. Should the project plans change significantly, or if the project is delayed more than 90 days, you should request an update to this response.

Thank you for your efforts to protect our nation's species and their habitats. If you have any questions concerning the above information, please contact Suzanne Audet at (509) 893-8002.

Sincerely,



For Supervisor

Enclosures

c: WNHP, Olympia
WDFG, Regions 1,2,3 & 5

Enclosure A

Endangered, Threatened, Proposed and Candidate Species,
Species of Concern, and Critical Habitat
in Eastern Washington, as Listed by the
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
August 1, 2001

Endangered

Gray wolf (*Canis lupus*)
Woodland caribou (*Rangifer tarandus caribou*)

Wenatchee Mountains checkermallow (*Sidalcea oregana* var. *calva*)

Threatened

Bald eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*)
Bull trout (*Salvelinus confluentus*)
Grizzly bear (*Ursus arctos* = *U.a. horribilis*)
Marbled murrelet (*Brachyramphus marmoratus marmoratus*)
Northern spotted owl (*Strix occidentalis caurina*)
Canada lynx (*Lynx canadensis*)

Ute ladies'-tresses (*Spiranthes diluvialis*)
Water howellia (*Howellia aquatilis*)

Designated Critical Habitat

Critical habitat for the northern spotted owl

Proposed Critical Habitat

Critical habitat for the Wenatchee Mountains checkermallow

Proposed

Coastal cutthroat trout (*Oncorhynchus clarki clarki*)
Showy stickseed (*Hackelia venusta*)
Spalding's silene (*Silene spaldingii*)

Candidate Animals

Oregon spotted frog (*Rana pretiosa*)
Mardon skipper (butterfly) (*Polites mardon*)
Washington ground squirrel (*Spermophilus washingtoni*)
Western sage grouse (*Centrocercus urophasianus phaios*)

Candidate Plants

Basalt daisy (*Erigeron basalticus*)

Northern wormwood (*Artemisia campestris* var. *wormskioldii*)

Slender moonwort (*Botrychium lineare*)

Umtanum desert buckwheat (*Eriogonum codium*)

White Bluffs bladder-pod (*Lesquerella tuplashensis*)